

REMEDIAL SITE ASSESSMENT DECISION - EPA REGION II

Site Name: Franklin Plastics Corp. EPA ID#: NJD011121589 State ID#:

215534



Alias Site Names:

City: Kearny County or Parish: Hudson State: NJ

Refer to Report Dated: 09/28/95 Report type: SIP

Report developed by: PIRNIE

DECISION:

☒ 1. Further Remedial Site Assessment under CERCLA (Superfund) is not required because:

☒ 1a. Site does not qualify for further remedial site assessment under CERCLA
(No Further Remedial Action Planned - NFRAP)

☐ 1b. Site may qualify for further action, but is deferred to:

☐ 2. Further Assessment Needed Under CERCLA:

2a. Priority: ☐ Higher ☐ Lower

2b. Other: (recommended action)

DISCUSSION/RATIONALE: The Franklin Plastic site is an active industrial facility located along the Passaic River in Kearny, Hudson County, New Jersey. The site is approximately 8 acres in size, and is located in an industrial/commercial portion of Kearny. Between 1946 and 1974 the site was owned and operated by the Congoleum Corporation/Floor Covering Division, who manufactured asphalt and vinyl tile on the premises. The site has been operated under the ownership of Franklin Plastics Corp. (FP) from 1976 to present. The primary product manufactured by FP is PVC pellets, which are produced by adding pigments and varying amounts of plasticizers to solid or powdered plastic resin. In 1980, leaking drums were observed during a Preliminary Assessment of the site. During a Preliminary Site Assessment conducted in 1984, soil samples were found to contain elevated levels of plasticizers (phthalates) and metals. FP is permitted by the state of New Jersey to discharge non-contact cooling water to the Passaic River. Compliance samples collected in 1985 indicated that levels of chromium and zinc in this discharge exceeded permitted levels. A New Jersey state Environmental Clean-up Responsibility Act (ECRA) investigation was initiated at the site in 1986. Seven groundwater monitoring wells were installed and 33 soil borings were collected. During an on-site reconnaissance conducted in 1990, solidified vinyl sludge was observed on the property, and three areas of abandoned drums were observed along the Passaic River. The drums, which were reported to be in poor condition, appeared to contain crumbled pieces of tile. Groundwater and soil samples collected in 1986 and 1990 contained volatile organic compounds, plasticizers, and metals. Surface water samples collected from a sump pit and the facilities discharge pipe contained chloroform and metals. A sediment sample collected from the sump pit contained phthalates and metals. Groundwater is not utilized as a source of potable water within four miles of the site. The nearest surface water body is the Passaic River, which is immediately adjacent to the site. The Passaic River flows into the Newark Bay and the Kill Van Kull to complete the fifteen mile surface water drainage pathway. There are no drinking water intakes located within the surface water drainage pathway. The surface water bodies making up the drainage pathway are designated for secondary contact recreation, maintenance and migration of fish populations, and maintenance of wildlife. All surface water bodies associated with the site are considered fisheries; however, a state advisory limits the sale or consumption of several species of shellfish and finfish. There are 5.3 miles of wetlands and habitat for one state- and federally-listed endangered species associated with these surface water bodies. The site is fenced and inaccessible to the public. There are no residences, schools, daycare centers, or terrestrial sensitive environments within 200 feet of the site. There are 31 on-site workers and approximately 1336 individuals residing within 0.25 miles of the site. There are a total of approximately 224 acres of wetlands and habitats for five state-listed endangered species and one state-listed threatened species within four miles of the site. Approximately 525,600 individuals reside within four miles of the site. This site does not appear to pose a current threat to human health or the environment, therefore, a decision of No Further Remedial Action Planned (NFRAP) is recommended.

Site Decision

Made by: Jennifer Snow-Ashbrook

Signature: Jennifer Snow-Ashbrook

Date: 09/28/95